

IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended) A cash/voucher terminal configured for use in a cashless gaming environment, where the gaming environment comprises player terminals having games usable for gambling and where cash cannot be used at player terminals, and where player terminals use cashless vouchers and the cashless vouchers further comprise indicia thereon, where the indicia further comprises a transaction identifier identification and further has no value therein, the cash/voucher terminal comprising:

an enclosure operably containing said cash/voucher terminal;

a network interface for operably connecting said cash/voucher terminal to a communications network;

a cashless voucher reader operably disposed within said cash/voucher terminal and configured to read cashless voucher indicia;

a cash dispenser operably disposed within said cash/voucher terminal; and,

where said cash/voucher terminal is further configured to

have no game therein,

receive cashless voucher indicia from said cashless voucher reader

comprising a transaction identifier and where said transaction identifier was previously generated by a player terminal or an exchange terminal and sent, along with a value, to a server to be retrievably stored thereon using said transaction identifier,

send said cashless voucher indicia operably out of said network interface,

receive data from said network interface where said data comprises a cash value associated with said ~~read~~ cashless voucher indicia transaction identifier, and, send said cash value to said currency dispenser, where said currency dispenser dispenses a cash amount according to said cash value.

2 (Original) The cash/voucher terminal of claim 1 where said indicia on said cashless vouchers further comprises at least partially encrypted data.

3 (Original) The cash/voucher terminal of claim 1 where said transaction identification comprises a value derived from time.

4 (Currently Amended) The cash/voucher terminal of claim 3 1 where said transaction identification ~~further~~ comprises a value ~~further derived from~~ making use of at least one of: date, machine number, or random number.

5 (Currently Amended) A method for redeeming cashless vouchers using a cash/voucher terminal in a gaming environment where the gaming environment comprises player terminals having games usable for gambling and where cash cannot be used at player terminals, and where player terminals use cashless vouchers and the cashless vouchers further comprise indicia thereon, where the indicia further comprises a transaction identification ~~and further has no value therein~~, the method comprising:

receiving a cashless voucher into a cashless voucher reader;

reading indicia from said cashless voucher;  
sending said indicia via a network comprising a transaction identifier and where  
said transaction identifier was previously generated by a player terminal or an exchange  
terminal and sent, along with a value, to a server having a database thereon to be  
retrievably stored using said transaction identifier, to a computer having operably  
disposed thereon a database configured to associate a transaction identification with a  
value;  
identifying a transaction identification from said indicia on said computer;  
associating said transaction identification with a value using said database on said  
computer server;  
receiving said value from said computer via said network; and,  
dispensing currency in accordance with said value.

6 (Original) The method of claim 5 where said transaction identification is at least  
partially encrypted.

7 (Original) The method of claim 5 where said transaction identification comprises a  
value derived from time.

8 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 1 where said transaction identification  
further comprises a value further derived from making use of at least one of: date,  
machine number, or random number.